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The surrender of Fashoda led Delcassé to seek compensation in Morocco, and to gain from the friendship of England what he could not secure by thwarting her will. The *detente* began with King Edward's visit to Paris in the spring of 1903, and on April 8, 1904, the two countries sponged off the slate the main causes of friction. The attitude of official Germany towards the Anglo-French treaty was at first friendly. At Delcassé's reception on March 23, 1904, Prince Radolin asked if he might put "an indiscreet question." Was it true that an agreement had been or was about to be signed between France and England? "Neither one nor the other," replied the Foreign Secretary; "but we have been conversing for some time with the London Cabinet with a view to the friendly settlement of the questions which interest our two countries. An understanding has been recognized to be possible, and will probably be reached." "Newfoundland is; said to be in question?" "We have spoken of it." "And Morocco?" "Also. But you know our point of view on that subject. We wish to maintain the political and territorial *status quo*; but if it is to stay it must be improved. We have had to reinforce and increase our troops at considerable expense. The Sultan has experienced the value of our aid. It must be continued; but it will be given in such a way that every one will derive advantage, since security is essential for commerce. Needless to add, commercial liberty will be strictly respected." "And Spain?" "We shall respect her interests and legitimate aspirations." Prince Radolin, added the Foreign Minister in recording the conversation, "found my declarations very natural and perfectly reasonable." On April 18, ten days after

the treaties were signed, Delcasse instructed the French Ambassador to inform the Wilhelmstrasse that Lord Lansdowne and himself had been concerned exclusively with the interests * of their countries, without detriment to those of any other Power. He did not think it necessary to present a copy of the treaty, since it was already known to all the world.

Official comment in Germany was favourable. Germany, Biilow had remarked in January, 1903, to the French Ambassador, had really no interests in Morocco, so insignificant were they at present. *c German commercial interests in Morocco are in no danger now," wrote the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*. " and greater stability would benefit us